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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 UPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-11
NSR-01 /086 W

R 211117Z AUG 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8997
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
USOEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMCONSUL DANANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 13463

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUB: PRIME MINISTER KHIEM DENOUNCES ANTI-RIGGING COMMITTEE

1. PRIME MINISTER TRAN THIEN KHIEM ISSUED A STATEMENT
AUGUST 19 DENOUNCING THE "NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE AGAINST
RIGGED ELECTIONS" RECENTLY ESTABLISHED BY OPPOSITION SENATOR
VU VAN MAU AND OTHER SENATORS AND DEPUTIES. ACCORDING TO
SEMI-OFFICIAL VIETNAM PRESS VERSION, KHIEM CHARGED THAT
THE COMMITTEE IS CAMOUFLAGING A PARTISAN, PRIVATE PURPOSE
UNDER THE OFFICIAL MANTLE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, MAKING
PUBLIC BELIEVE THAT IT IS SANCTIONED BY THE NATIONAL
LEG SLATURE. IN FACT, KHIEM ASSERTED THE COMMITTEE HAS
RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL APPROVAL IN ASSEMBLY PLENARY SESSION.
KHIEM ALSO ACCUSED THE COMMITTEE OF USING VAGUE REASONING
IN ALLEGING THAT THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS WILL BE RIGGED.
ONLY AGENCIES SET UP UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND THE ELECTION
LAWS TO SUPERVISE THE ELECTIONS MAY SAY WHETHER THE ELECTIONS
ARE RIGGED OR NOT. KHIEM SAID. HE ASKED THE SPEAKERS OF
BOTH HOUSES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO HALT THE COMMITTEE'S
ACTIVITIES.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY *John J. [signature]* DATE 1/26/82

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

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RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

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WM SENATOR MAU HAS CONFIRMED TO EMBOFFS THAT HE AND OTHER
LEGISLATORS HAVE FORMED THIS COMMITTEE. WE DO NOT YET
KNOW THE REACTION OF THE SPEAKERS OF THE TWO HOUSES TO KHIEM'S
DEMAND.
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